

Lesson 1: The Birth of John Foretold

Text: Luke 1:5–25

Date Used: _____

Key Point: God promised to send John to prepare sinners to receive the Savior. Through His Word, God calls us to repent and declares us righteous because of Jesus.

Law/Gospel: I sin when I doubt God’s Word and promises. **God sent His Son to forgive my sin and works through His Word and Sacraments to give me faith to believe and to strengthen my trust in Him.**

To bring:

Engage

Approximate time: _____

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Bible Challenge Question: Who were the parents of John the Baptist? **Zechariah and Elizabeth**

Notes:

To bring:

Explore

Approximate time: _____

Level 1 (Grades 1–3)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Level 2 (Grades 4–6)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Adult Bible Study

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

To bring:

Express Options (Choose 2 or more!)

Approximate
times:

Slot 1:

Slot 2:

Slot 3*:

Slot 4*:

Slot 5*:

Slot 6*:

Music: Jesus, Our Good Friend (Track 13)

Prepare the Way of the Lord (Track 23)

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry (Track 21)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Skit: The Birth of John Foretold

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Craft: Point the Way Finger Puppet

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Food Activity: A Message for You

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Group Activity: Zechariah Charades

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

*If applicable

Lesson 2: The Birth of Jesus Foretold

Text: Luke 1:26–38

Date Used: _____

Key Point: Because of Christ, God favored Mary and chose her to be the mother of the Savior. Because of Christ, God favors us and chooses us to be His children.

Law/Gospel: Like Mary, I deserve nothing from God because of my sinfulness. **God gives me unmerited grace and favor because of His Son.**

To bring:

Engage

Approximate time: _____

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Bible Challenge Question: Who told Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus? **The angel Gabriel**

Notes: _____

To bring:

Explore

Approximate time: _____

Level 1 (Grades 1–3)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes: _____

Level 2 (Grades 4–6)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes: _____

Adult Bible Study

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes: _____

To bring:

Express Options (Choose 2 or more!)

Approximate
times:

Slot 1:

Slot 2:

Slot 3*:

Slot 4*:

Slot 5*:

Slot 6*:

Music: Savior of the Nations, Come (Track 26)

Joy to the World (Track 16)

Isaiah 9:6 (Track 10)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Skit: The Birth of Jesus Foretold

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Craft: Baby Peg Doll

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Food Activity: Angels All around Us

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Group Activity: Secret Messages

Whispering the Magnificat

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Service Project: Helping Young Mothers

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

*If applicable

Lesson 3: Mary Visits Elizabeth

Text: Luke 1:39–56

Date Used: _____

Key Point: God remembered Mary, filling her womb with the world’s Savior. God remembers us and, through His Word and Sacraments, fills us with Christ Jesus, granting us full salvation. Like Mary, we offer our humble praise.

Law/Gospel: No one is righteous before God. **God sent His Son, Jesus, the Righteous One, to be born of Mary, so He could give me His righteousness, granting me full salvation.**

To bring:

Engage

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Bible Challenge Question: Who did Mary go and visit after receiving good news from the angel Gabriel? **Elizabeth**

Notes:

To bring:

Explore

Level 1 (Grades 1–3)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Level 2 (Grades 4–6)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Adult Bible Study

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

To bring:

Express Options (Choose 2 or more!)

Approximate
times:

Slot 1:

Slot 2:

Slot 3*:

Slot 4*:

Slot 5*:

Slot 6*:

Music: Jesus, I Believe in You (Track 11)

My Soul Rejoices (Track 18)

Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love (Track 12)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Skit: Mary Visits Elizabeth

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Craft: Praise Bell

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Food Activity: Traveling Trail Mix

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Group Activity: Unbelievable!

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

*If applicable

Lesson 4: The Birth of John

Text: Luke 1:57–80

Date Used: _____

Key Point: Through Zechariah, God said John would give knowledge of salvation to His people in the forgiveness of sins. Through His Holy Word, God speaks to give us knowledge of salvation and forgiveness through His Son, Jesus.

Law/Gospel: As a child of the first parents, Adam and Eve, I am sinful and in need of salvation. **John, the son of Elizabeth and Zechariah, and others who proclaim the Good News point me to Jesus, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.**

To bring:

Engage

Approximate time: _____

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Bible Challenge Question: What was Zechariah’s job? (Remember, he was the father of John the Baptist.) **He was a priest.**

Notes:

To bring:

Explore

Approximate time: _____

Level 1 (Grades 1–3)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Level 2 (Grades 4–6)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Adult Bible Study

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

To bring:

Express Options (Choose 2 or more!)

Approximate
times:

Slot 1:

Slot 2:

Slot 3*:

Slot 4*:

Slot 5*:

Slot 6*:

Music: Jesus, Our Good Friend (Track 13)

Prepare the Way of the Lord (Track 23)

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry (Track 21)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Skit: The Birth of John

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Craft: Nameplate Bible Verse Holder

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Food Activity: Look at Jesus!

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Group Activity: God's Light on Earth

Straight Path of Scripture

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

*If applicable

Lesson 5: An Angel Visits Joseph

Text: Matthew 1:18–25

Date Used: _____

Key Point: Just as the angel proclaimed to Joseph that Mary would bear an infant who is the Son of God, the Savior, so God proclaims to us in His Word that this same Jesus is our Savior from sin and death.

Law/Gospel: Relying on my own eyes and senses, I trust what is false instead of trusting that Christ is God's Son, my Savior. **God's Word gives me the truth that Jesus is Immanuel, God with me, my Savior.**

To bring:

Engage

Approximate time: _____

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Bible Challenge Question: What was the name of the man who was engaged to marry Mary? **Joseph**

Notes:

To bring:

Explore

Approximate time: _____

Level 1 (Grades 1–3)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Level 2 (Grades 4–6)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Adult Bible Study

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

To bring:

Express Options (Choose 2 or more!)

Approximate
times:

Slot 1:

Slot 2:

Slot 3*:

Slot 4*:

Slot 5*:

Slot 6*:

Music: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (Track 4)

John 1:14 (Track 14)

O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild (Track 20)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Skit: An Angel Visits Joseph

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Craft: Clothespin Angel

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Food Activity: How Do I Know?

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Group Activity: Trust in Jesus

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

*If applicable

Lesson 6: The Birth of Jesus

Text: Luke 2:1–20

Date Used: _____

Key Point: A Savior is born to you! He is Christ the Lord.

Law/Gospel: Because of sin, I am afraid and helpless before God and deserve to die. **God sent His Son, Jesus, to save me from sin and death, and He makes me His own dear child through faith in Him.**

To bring:

Engage

Approximate time: _____

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Bible Challenge Question: Who told the shepherds in the fields near Bethlehem about Jesus' birth? **Angels!**

Notes:

To bring:

Explore

Approximate time: _____

Level 1 (Grades 1–3)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Level 2 (Grades 4–6)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Adult Bible Study

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

To bring:

Express Options (Choose 2 or more!)

Approximate
times:

Slot 1:

Slot 2:

Slot 3*:

Slot 4*:

Slot 5*:

Slot 6*:

Music: John 3:16 (Track 15)

Hush! Not a Peep (Track 8)

Glory Be to God on High (Track 5)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Skit: The Birth of Jesus

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Craft: Mini Flower Pot Nativity Set

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Food Activity: Haystack Snacks

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Group Activity: Bursting Pomegranates

Happy Birthday Party

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

*If applicable

Lesson 7: The Presentation of Jesus

Text: Luke 2:22–40

Date Used: _____

Key Point: God’s Law requires payment for every sin. God’s Son fulfilled the Law and paid for our sin.

Law/Gospel: God’s Law demands perfection, but I am not perfect. **As God and man, Jesus lived a perfect life to satisfy the Law in my place.**

To bring:

Engage

Approximate time: _____

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Bible Challenge Question: Where did the Jewish people worship in New Testament times? **The temple in Jerusalem, sometimes called “Herod’s temple.”**

Notes:

To bring:

Explore

Approximate time: _____

Level 1 (Grades 1–3)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Level 2 (Grades 4–6)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Adult Bible Study

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

To bring:

Express Options (Choose 2 or more!)

Approximate
times:

Slot 1:

Slot 2:

Slot 3*:

Slot 4*:

Slot 5*:

Slot 6*:

Music: Joy to the World (Track 16)

O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild (Track 20)

Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love (Track 12)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Skit: The Presentation of Jesus

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Craft: Feathered Dove

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Food Activity: The Best Announcement

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Group Activity: Cascades of Praise
Pop Goes Perfection

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

*If applicable

Lesson 8: The Visit of the Wise Men

Text: Matthew 2

Date Used: _____

Key Point: The Wise Men came to see the Savior and honor Him with gifts. In church, we see the Savior in His gifts of Word and Sacrament, which honor and bless us.

Law/Gospel: Like Herod, I do not want to worship the Savior, Jesus. **Christ comes to me, a sinner, to turn my hardened heart toward Him through His gifts of Word and Sacrament, enabling me to offer Him my worship and praise.**

To bring:

Engage

Approximate time: _____

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Bible Challenge Question: How many Wise Men visited baby Jesus? **The Bible does not say, but they brought three gifts.**

Notes:

To bring:

Explore

Approximate time: _____

Level 1 (Grades 1–3)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Level 2 (Grades 4–6)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Adult Bible Study

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

To bring:

Express Options (Choose 2 or more!)

Approximate
times:

Slot 1:

Slot 2:

Slot 3*:

Slot 4*:

Slot 5*:

Slot 6*:

Music: The Epiphany of Our Lord (Track 27)

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (Track 7)

Reaching for a Star (Track 24)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Skit: The Visit of the Wise Men

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Craft: Star Gift Box

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Food Activity: Sandwich Presents

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Group Activity: God Gives the Best Gifts

Shiny Gifts

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

*If applicable

Lesson 9: The Boy Jesus in the Temple

Text: Luke 2:41–52

Date Used: _____

Key Point: As a boy, Jesus was found in His Father’s house. In God’s house, I hear His Word, learn that Jesus is my Savior, and receive His gifts of forgiveness and salvation.

Law/Gospel: Because of sin, I cannot recognize who Jesus is. **Through Baptism and the power of His Word, God makes clear to me that Jesus is His Son and my Savior.**

To bring:	Engage	Approximate time: _____
	Location:	_____
	Leader(s):	_____
	Bible Challenge Question: Name the feast Jesus attended with his parents at the temple when He was twelve years old. Passover	
	Notes:	

To bring:	Explore	Approximate time: _____
	Level 1 (Grades 1–3)	Level 2 (Grades 4–6)
	Location: _____	Location: _____
	Leader(s): _____	Leader(s): _____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	Notes:	Notes:
	Adult Bible Study	
	Location: _____	
	Leader(s): _____	
	Notes:	

To bring:

Express Options (Choose 2 or more!)

Approximate
times:

Slot 1:

Slot 2:

Slot 3*:

Slot 4*:

Slot 5*:

Slot 6*:

Music: John 3:16 (Track 15)

Be Imitators (Ephesians 5:1–2) (Track 2)

Within the Father's House (Track 29)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Skit: The Boy Jesus in the Temple

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Craft: Lost and Found Bookmark

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Food Activity: Stained Glass Cookies

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Group Activity: Your Mission Is . . .

What's in God's House

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Service Project: Housekeeping for God

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

*If applicable

Notes:

Lesson 10: John Prepares the Way

Text: Matthew 3:1–12

Date Used: _____

Key Point: As John pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God, so our pastors point us to this same Jesus, who grants us forgiveness, life, and salvation.

Law/Gospel: Sin hardens my heart against God, and I try to earn my salvation. **God's Word works in my hardened heart, causing me to repent and believe in the Savior.**

To bring:

Engage

Approximate time: _____

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Bible Challenge Question: True or false: John said that he was not the Messiah, but was sent to prepare the way for His coming. **True; see John 3:28.**

Notes:

To bring:

Explore

Approximate time: _____

Level 1 (Grades 1–3)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Level 2 (Grades 4–6)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Adult Bible Study

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____ Notes:

To bring:

Express Options (Choose 2 or more!)

Approximate
times:

Slot 1:

Slot 2:

Slot 3*:

Slot 4*:

Slot 5*:

Slot 6*:

Music: Prepare the Royal Highway (Track 22)

Jesus, I Believe in You (Track 11)

Child of God (Track 3)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Skit: John Prepares the Way

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Craft: Lamb-of-God Victory Flag

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Food Activity: Heart-of-Joy Snack

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Group Activity: Floating Fruit

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Lesson 11: The Baptism of Jesus

Text: Luke 3:15–22

Date Used: _____

Key Point: Jesus was baptized “to fulfill all righteousness” so that our Baptism might give us forgiveness of sins and rescue us from death and the devil.

Law/Gospel: Because of God’s wrath and anger over sin, I and all people need a Savior. **In Baptism, I am made a child of the heavenly Father and an heir of heaven.**

To bring:

Engage

Approximate time: _____

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Bible Challenge Question: Name the two Sacraments of the Lutheran Church. **Baptism and the Lord’s Supper**

Notes:

To bring:

Explore

Approximate time: _____

Level 1 (Grades 1–3)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Level 2 (Grades 4–6)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Adult Bible Study

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

To bring:

Express Options (Choose 2 or more!)

Approximate
times:

Slot 1:

Slot 2:

Slot 3*:

Slot 4*:

Slot 5*:

Slot 6*:

Music: Be a Believer (Track 1)

I'm with You (Track 9)

God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It (Track 6)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Skit: The Baptism of Jesus

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Craft: Baptism Picture Frame

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Food Activity: Water-and-the-Word Snack

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Group Activity: Baptism Talk

Water Game

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Service Project: Baptism Family Tree

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

*If applicable

Lesson 12: The Temptation of Jesus

Text: Luke 4:1–13

Date Used: _____

Key Point: The devil tempted Jesus to sin, but Jesus, true God and true man, did not sin. He kept God’s Law on our behalf and became the sinless sacrifice for our sins so that we might have forgiveness and new life.

Law/Gospel: The devil tempts me, and I often give in. **In Christ, God forgives my sin, provides all that I need for this life and the next, and gives me power to overcome temptation.**

To bring:

Engage

Approximate time: _____

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Bible Challenge Question: True or false: Once you become a Christian, you are never tempted to do anything wrong again. **False. We are tempted every day! The Holy Spirit can help us overcome temptation. Quoting Bible verses can often help us.**

Notes:

To bring:

Explore

Approximate time: _____

Level 1 (Grades 1–3)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Level 2 (Grades 4–6)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Adult Bible Study

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

To bring:

Express Options (Choose 2 or more!)

Approximate
times:

Slot 1:

Slot 2:

Slot 3*:

Slot 4*:

Slot 5*:

Slot 6*:

Music: God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It (Track 6)

Rise Up (Track 25)

New Creation (Track 19)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Skit: The Temptation of Jesus

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Craft: Rock Food

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Food Activity: Tempting Treats

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Group Activity: God's Power to Resist Temptation Role-Play

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

*If applicable

Lesson 13: Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

Text: John 1:43–51

Date Used: _____

Key Point: Jesus called Philip and Nathanael to believe in Him. In Jesus, access to heaven is given to all who believe.

Law/Gospel: My sinful nature does not recognize Jesus as the Son of God. I futilely try to manipulate Jesus into being what I want. **Jesus is the only true God, the Savior who rescues me from sin, death, and the devil. He is the true Jacob’s ladder upon whom the angels will come down and escort me to my heavenly home.**

To bring:

Engage

Approximate time: _____

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Bible Challenge Question: xxxxxxxx

Name two of Jesus’ twelve disciples. *Simon Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus (also called Judas the son of the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot*

Notes:

To bring:

Explore

Approximate time: _____

Level 1 (Grades 1–3)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Level 2 (Grades 4–6)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Adult Bible Study

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

To bring:

Express Options (Choose 2 or more!)

Approximate
times:

Slot 1:

Slot 2:

Slot 3*:

Slot 4*:

Slot 5*:

Slot 6*:

Music: We Have Seen the Lord (Track 28)

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (Track 17)

Jesus, I Believe in You (Track 11)

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Skit: Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Craft: Follow Me Footprints

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Food Activity: Come and See

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

Group Activity: Gathering Strength

Location: _____

Leader(s): _____

Notes:

*If applicable